

# CHURCH OF SAINT TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS

ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### **CONTACT US**

ST. TERESA CHURCH / RECTORY **1634 Victory Boulevard Castleton Corners** Staten Island, NY 10314 PHONE 718 442 5412 FAX 718 442 9041 **EMAIL rectory@stteresasi.org WEBSITE** www.saintteresasi.org

LOYAL PARISHIONERS ARE APPRECIATED. AND NEW PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME. PLEASE REGISTER SO THAT WE CAN SERVE YOU AND KEEP IN TOUCH.

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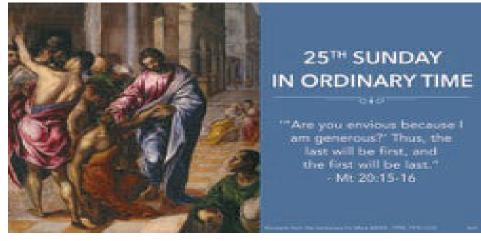
#### MASS SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY MASSES** SATURDAY 4:00PM SUNDAY 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM, 12:30PM, 5:00PM

ALL THESE MASSES ARE IN ST. TERESA CHURCH ON VICTORY BLVD., EXCEPT THE 9AM MASS WHICH IS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL, ON NORTHERN BLVD. AT LA BAU AVE., ONE BLOCK IN FROM VICTORY BLVD

**WEEKDAY MASSES MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8:30AM TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 12 Noon** 

**SACRAMENT OF** RECONCILIATION **SATURDAYS, NOON TO 1:00PM** 



#### **SACRAMENTS**

#### **BAPTISMS**

Designated Sundays at 1:30 Please call the rectory to check dates and to meet with a priest or deacon.

#### CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday, Noon to 1pm, in the sacristy near the altar

#### WEDDINGS

Please call and speak to a priest to begin planning your wedding

ANOINTING OF THE SICK Anytime

# NOVENA SERVICES

Mondays after 8:30 Mass

#### EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Fridays after Noon Mass until Benediction at 3PM

## RELIGION/ SCHOOL

### St. Teresa Religious Education

**Program** for public school students begins with first grade and leads to sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. Students are taught on Tuesdays 4pm to 5:30. Call 718 981-2632 or email ccd@saintteresasi.org.

#### ST. TERESA — ST. RITA STREAM

**ACADEMY** for 3k to 8th grade offers a sound education in the Catholic faith. Students take part in a rigorous instructional program that challenges them in a STREAM- supported atmosphere—science, technology, religion, engineering, art, mathematics. Our ultimate goal is to provide students with the skills to be productive members of the church and positive members of society. We offer five full days of inschool instruction. Please call the office at 718 448 9650 or visit stsrstreamacademy.com.

THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24	DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU!	NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1
4:00PM Andrew Thomas Williams 7:30AM Jude Pio Mathias Hamtil (Living) 9:00AM Joseph Antonucci 10:30AM For the People of Our Parish 12:30PM John Mondelli 5:00PM Brianna Quiles	Mass Intentions	4:00PM Deceased Members of Korzenowski and Mazurkiewics Families 7:30AM Theresa and Joseph DiCosmo 9:00AM Alexander Granello 10:30AM Albert Witt 12:30PM Vito D'Armetta 5:00PM Dominick Tushaj
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
8:30AM Jesse Sidor	8:30AM Rose Messina 12NOON John Damico	8:30AM In Honor of St. Cono 12NOON Colleen Westrenen
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
8:30AM Gerard Eick 12NOON Siciliano Family	8:30AM James Parsons and Family 12NOON Lydia O'Brien (Living)	8:30AM Burton Cohen

IT IS A DEVOUT AND LOVING PRACTICE TO COME TO MASS AND PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED.

#### SERVED BY

MSGR. WILLIAM BELFORD

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FATHER JOHN KALLATTIL, VC

Parochial Vicar

**FATHER STEVEN CHALLMAN** 

Sunday Associate

**DEACON JONATHAN REYES** 

Deacon

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St. Teresa-St. Rita Principal

MRS. LISA RAMETTA

**Religious Education Coordinator** 

MRS. LISA NAUGHTON

Parish Manager

MR. EDWARD MORAND

Director of Music

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Your prayers are requested for all who are sick in our parish and community, especially: Grace Agalo-os, Karen Bertuzzi, Michael Borik, Vincent Borzumato, Rosemary Callenberg, Nicholas Crispiano, Nicholas Ciricirillo, Carina DeGiulio, Kevin Dunne, Patricia Dunne, Joanie Edwards, Augustine Ferrer, Mark & Arlene Fileccia, Michael G., Josephine Greco, Elaine Guarlino, Ricky Gundacker, David Hall, Vincent Hicks, Barbara Hicks, Buddy Jarrel, Pat Jarrell, Jennifer Johnson, Fred Kabat, Donnalyn Lawton, Catherine Leone, Edward Lewis, Genevieve Lewis, Josephine Linton, Linda Mahoney, Paul Mahoney, Emma Jane Mannix, Mikia James Martin, Judy C. Mc., Raymond and Maureen McLaughlin, Marie McMillen, Susan Morris, Josephine Nastasi, Joseph Pastore, Ryan Pizzaro, Joanny Pizzuti, Sal Prestigiacomo, Gerry Pye, Edwin Rodriguez, Ronald Rothmund, Jerry Scattaglia, Cheryl Spinelli, David Valle, Michael Walsh, Jerry Yannaci Sr., William Wisnieski

Pray for Our Parishioners in the Military

Spec 4 Michael R. Mazzuki, Jr. U.S. Army, Middle East.

Sergeant Connor M. O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corp., Camp Lejeune, NC

Technical Sergeant Michael Mazzarella, U.S. Air Force, Africa NEXT SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR PRIESTS

9am, 10:30am, 5pm Monsignor Belford 4pm, 7:30, 12:30, Clove Lakes Home Father Kallattil Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Teresa Church,

Next Sunday, October 1, will be the Feast of our Patron Saint, **Saint Teresa of the Infant Jesus**. 2023 is the 150th Anniversary of her birth. Lucky for us, right after Pope Pius XI canonized Sister Teresa in 1925 and declared her a Saint, New York's Cardinal Patrick Hayes in March of 1926 placed the new parish on Victory Boulevard in Staten Island under her patronage. Prepare this week by reading about her or her very popular book, **Story of a Soul**. Let us pray for her intercession for our parish at our Masses next Sunday. Next year we will resume our custom of holding a Parish Luncheon in her honor.

Although she could not be an active missionary to go tell people about Jesus Christ in places far from her Carmelite convent in France, Sister Teresa of the Infant Jesus inspired and prayed for those who could go—so much so that the Church venerates her as a Patron Saint of the Missions. You too can be a helper at home if you know of someone near us who would like to become a Catholic and join us in prayers and sacraments. We have wonderful teachers who lead interesting meetings on Sunday mornings so that adults can prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion at Eastertime. Introduce us, tell me, encourage people to receive these graces. Be like Saint Teresa, and help them become closer to Christ.

Last Sunday it was my role as pastor of our parish to speak at each Mass about the finances of our parish and also the generosity of our parishioners, who have provided beautiful buildings for worship, religious and academic education, sports, administration, meetings and clergy housing—and from 1960 to 2012, a convent for Presentation Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary who taught in our parochial school.

That convent has been given a complete makeover and a great new purpose. I was happy to tell about the success of a ground-breaking initiative that you knew about in advance and supported: a residence with ten apartments for independent living for young adults with autism. This building on Windsor Road was completely redesigned and rebuilt by the healthcare ministry of our Archdiocese, and it is now **ArchCare at Saint Teresa.** Already in use for three years, this has been a great success and a blessing for the residents and their families. In the September issue of the national magazine **AMERICA**, there is a picture taken in our chapel and a lovely article about some residents, their parents, and their gratitude. You can read it on page 5 inside.

I also thanked all the donors who gave to our 2016-2019 Capital Campaign. Please take another look at donors names on the memorial plaque in the vestibule of our church. Our campaign's ambitious goal was to air-condition the gymnasium and the classrooms of our school building. That turned out to be much more expensive and time-consuming than we expected. The original 1950s electrical wiring and panel had to be replaced. We did install four huge new units for the gym several years ago. Then Covid came and final certification for the rest of the work did not happen until this summer. Now we are already taking bids to get air-conditioning in classrooms next year. This will be great for the health and learning of students and teachers.

Telling this history is part of my accountability to you as administrator of our property, and of my stewardship of your contributions to our church. We are all here to serve, with responsibility to hand on what we have received, in good condition or even better, to those who will come after us.

I am hoping that people who have not thought about giving regularly to our church will be moved to do so. And that we will each take a look at past decisions about the right amount to give. Here is an insight that most people agree with: no one should be selfish. Don't use up or keep everything you have. Be generous with your family and your friends, Support your parish, your schools, people you know, the charities of your choice. No one takes their money with them. Share it now. Be generous, be happy, be thanked.

Msgr. William Belford



#### **Invitation to Empty Nesters**

from the Family Life Office of our Archdiocese

This coming Saturday, our Archdiocesan Family Life Office is sponsoring the **First Annual Gathering for Empty Nesters**. It will be this Saturday afternoon, September 30, 1:30 to 4:30, on the grounds of Saint Joseph Seminary in Yonkers (201 Seminary Avenue), about an hour plus from Staten Island. Registration is requested.

This will be a time for conversation and relaxation for parents and adult relatives whose children have moved away from home. Chicago parish renewal leader and story-teller Elizabeth White will be the presenter. For more information, contact Kayla.Beiter@archny.org or call 646 794 3183.

#### A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAN UP NY!

On Saturday, October 7, at Iona University in New Rochelle, Catholic men from the metropolitan area are invited to the annual **Man Up NY!** conference in our archdiocese. The purpose of **Man Up** is to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ. Gathered together, men seek God's grace to strengthen one another and grow in our commitment to our Catholic faith. Better equipped by this as witnesses of the Gospel, men can serve their families and community better. Dynamic witnessing, talks about personal experiences, music, times of fellowship, and prayer, men will be energized and enabled to be better sons, fathers, brothers, husbands.

Now is the time to register for this year's **Man Up NY Conference**. Come by yourself or encourage other men you know to step up and find out more about this experience.

To learn more and to register, go to www.manupny.com.

#### COME TO EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS IN NEW YORK STATE

A bus will be leaving from Blessed Sacrament parking lot (Manor Road) on Saturday, October 21 at 6am, to attend the Eucharistic Congress at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville. The cost is \$35, payable to Blessed Sacrament. Attendees must first register for the Congress at nyseucharisticcongress.org, and then secure their bus reservation by their payment. The deadline is October 15.

The Congress promises to be a blessed day which will include

outstanding speakers, Mass, Confession, and Eucharistic Adoration and Procession. Come and join us! For information call Blessed Sacrament at 718-442-1581.

To learn more about the great day, and to register:

#### NYSEUCHARISTICCONGRESS.ORG

Thank you for your faithful weekly donations to God for our Parish support.

WeShare online amount was \$1,825.

Parishioners brought envelopes to Mass with contributions of \$7,966.

#### A PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

For our Jewish sisters and brothers to be safe from harm and treated with respect as they follow their faith and observe their High Holy Days, let us pray to the Lord...

#### **Next Sunday is Our Food Pantry Sunday**

Your voluntary contributions after Masses each First Sunday provide credit in our local supermarket to more than 60 local families and individuals who need help to insure that they and their children have enough to eat. Please make this a habit. Besides the First Sundays, donations by mail or delivery are always welcome.



#### OUR BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY IS VERY HELPFUL

ST. TERESA'S BEREAVEMENT GROUP IS HERE TO WELCOME YOU WHEN YOU ARE READY. WE MEET ON THE FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAYS EACH MONTH AT 10:45 IN OUR PARISH HOUSE, ON WINDSOR RD. AND SLOSSON AV.. CALL MICHAEL SCHIFFLER AT 347 466 0603 SO HE CAN CONFIRM THE NEXT DATES AND MAKE YOU WELCOME.

#### We Invite You to Join Our Parish

Everybody is welcome; everybody should be known. To register and join our Parish, please visit our website at **www.saintteresasi.org** and complete the online registration form.

### **GOODNEWS:** A place to call home for adults with autism

Kristin Thatcher knew she did not want to live in a group home.

Before 2020, the Staten Island native faced a problem that is growing for households across the country. Educational institutions provide structure and support for children and teens who are on the autism spectrum, but many of those services are less available as they transition into adulthood.

Young adults with autism have few places to turn when they "fall off the cliff," as some professionals call the abrupt end of services autistic adults received as children. This leads many autistic adults to live at home for years with parents who worry for their children as they age.

The most recent numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that one in 36 children comes of age with an autism spectrum disorder in the United States. Yet despite the prevalence of the condition, the question of how to assist autistic adults remains a growing challenge, according to advocates.

Kristin lived in her childhood home into adulthood, and her mother, Lynn Thatcher, was unsure whether her daughter could live independently. "From a parent's perspective, we always worry about what's going to happen when we're not here anymore," Ms. Thatcher said. -

But in January 2020, Kristin Thatcher did something she and her mother never thought she would be able to do: She moved out. ArchCare, the Archdiocese of New York's continuing care initiative, had converted St. Teresa's, a former convent on Staten Island, into supportive living apartments for autistic adults aged 24 to 35.

On March I, ArchCare broke ground on the program's second apartment building in Eastchester, N.Y., at a former convent on the grounds of Immaculate Conception Church. Donna Maxon, ArchCare's independent housing managing agent, said the model gives a remarkable amount of autonomy to autistic adults who do not need aroundthe-clock care.

"Everybody, regardless of your background or your circumstances, desires to live as independently as possible in the most respectful setting as possible," said Ms. Maxon. "And that's what I think we create and accomplish with these housing projects."

The building in Eastchester, like the program at St. Teresa's, will house eight to 10 residents. Independent living means that residents have complete control over their own apartments-furniture, decorations and day-to-day decisions about meals and bedtimes.



Vincent Mazzone and Michael Prindle, tenant liaison at the ArchCare facility in Staten Island, enjoy a video game together.

Kristin said that these freedoms are exactly what she hoped for but did not imagine she would be able to find while she was researching supportive housing opportunities. "It's really fun being able to live on my own, make my own choices, making sure my apartment is nice and clean and doing all the adult things," she said.

Ultimately, what makes the ArchCare model work is the network of communication among the families of residents. Kristin and her mom know the other members of the community well-including Vincent Mazzone, another St. Teresa's resident since 2020, and his mother, Millie Maz-

Ms. Mazzone explained that before Vincent moved to his apartment, she felt that she would always need to be close at hand in case anything happened. But in the three years since Vincent moved, Ms. Mazzone has learned to rely on the other St. Teresa's families.

"I've gotten to know a lot of the kids' siblings and their parents. We do favors for each other," she said. "It's nice to know you can count on more than just your family."

That kind of relationship does require a small, tightknit group. This reality, combined with the limited size of the convent buildings, means ArchCare cannot accept more than a handful of those who apply. Ms. Maxon said that the need for this kind of housing far outpaces what the archdiocese is able to provide, adding that for many adults with autism, this level of independence would be impossi-

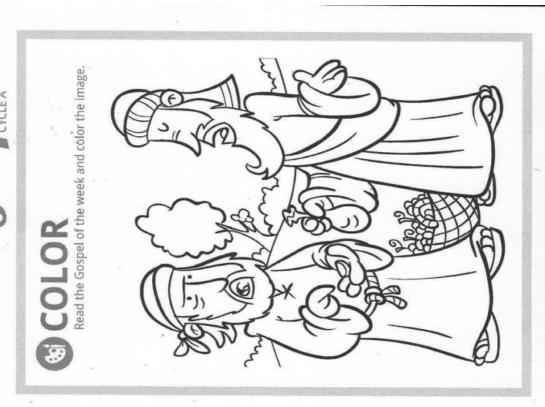
But it works well for Vincent. After more than three years in the program, he continues to thrive at St. Teresa's. His mother called the project a "godsend."

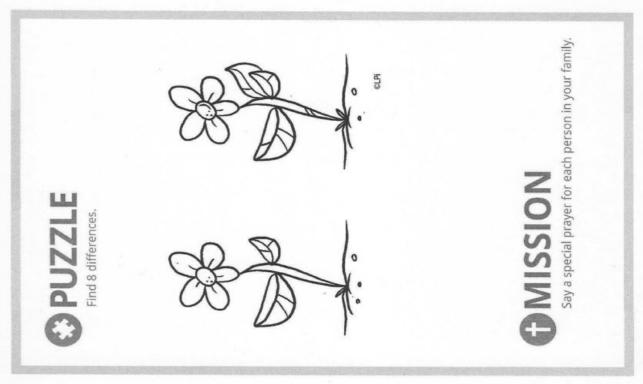
"From the time Vincent was diagnosed, I kept wondering, 'How long will I be here for him?' But I have to tell you, I no longer worry about that," Ms. Mazzone said.

Christopher Parker, O'Hare fellow. Twitter: @cparkernews.

SEPTEMBER 2023 AMERICA 15







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